

the preference of the Program Manager for Chemical Destruction under the Department of the Army for baseline incineration. Now that the Defense Department is committed to the neutralization approach, and given the numerous GAO reports and testimony to Congress stating that effective management of the chemical demilitarization program has been hindered by the complexity of its management structure, it appears to make sense to pursue the transfer. Still, I've asked Chairman HUNTER to follow this move closely to ensure that this proposed change in oversight of the project doesn't change the path forward for the development of the neutralization technology.

I'm glad that both Democratic and Republican members of the Colorado delegation understand the importance of getting the job done right at Pueblo. I will continue to work with my colleagues to ensure this happens.

For the benefit of my colleagues, I've attached a May 18 editorial from the Pueblo Chieftain.

[From the Pueblo Chieftain, May 18, 2005]

TRUST, BUT VERIFY

There appears to be bureaucratic wrangling over control of the chemical weapons destruction program at Pueblo Chemical Depot, and Representative John Salazar is pledging to keep a close eye on developments.

Representative Salazar reports that the Army approached him directly with information that the Pentagon wants the job under the direct oversight of the Army, rather than the Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternative program, or ACWA. ACWA has been the agency favored by local critics of the Army, which originally planned to build an incinerator to demilitarize the weapons.

Representative Salazar, taking note of recent developments in Congress to get the work back on track after numerous delays, said the Army's track record warrants close monitoring to see that nothing else gets derailed. It was this long series of delays which earlier this month prompted Congress to approve provisions in a supplemental budget bill that included \$327 million and explicit language requiring the Pentagon to destroy the weapons at Pueblo and the Blue Grass Chemical Depot in Kentucky. This week the Senate Armed Services Committee added \$20 million.

The demilitarization provision was co-sponsored by Colorado's two senators, Wayne Allard and Ken Salazar, and Representative Salazar.

Ross Vincent, a member of the local Citizens Advisory Commission and a supporter of ACWA, is wary of having the Army take direct control of the project. The Army may realize it needs to mend fences, because Representative Salazar made a point of noting that the Army volunteered the information that the Pentagon now wants that military branch to be in direct control.

Representative Salazar has sized up the situation quickly since his House induction in January. We are pleased that has given the chemical depot his considerable attention.

We also would encourage the congressional delegation to press the Pentagon to do all of the demilitarization work here. There has been some discussion of perhaps shipping explosives and the neutralized mustard agent known as "hydrolysat" off site for final destruction at other plants.

It's estimated that such transfers would mean the loss of about 200 jobs that otherwise would be created at Pueblo Chemical Depot. But at what cost?

The Pentagon is looking at one cost factor, though. Last week officials said they may

use some recycled parts from a similar system that has finished its work at Aberdeen Proving Grounds in Maryland. If that could be a net savings to taxpayers, we're all for it.

Delays and mismanagement have skyrocketed the cost of destroying this Nation's chemical weapons. The sooner the job gets done, the better.

CONGRESSIONAL CAUCUS FOR WOMEN'S ISSUES RECOGNIZES DRILL SERGEANT JENNIFER R. FOWLER

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 26, 2005

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of Congresswomen BROWN-WAITE, SOLIS, CAPPS and the entire Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues to recognize the 8th Annual Women in the Military Wreath Laying Ceremony hosted by the Caucus at Arlington National Cemetery. The purpose of this event is to honor our nation's servicewomen and female veterans for their courage and achievements, and to remember women who have died in service to the United States.

Today, we have the opportunity to recognize five outstanding female servicewomen, one selected from each branch of the military. These women serve their respective branches with honor, dignity, and courage. These highly decorated leaders chose to defend our freedom and embody the spirit of those that served before them.

From the United States Army, we will honor Drill Sergeant Jennifer R. Fowler. Drill Sergeant Fowler has served in the Army in a variety of duty stations and capacities. Her deployments include: Operation Distant Haven-Suriname, and Operation Safe Haven Panama.

Drill Sergeant Fowler's awards and decorations include the joint Meritorious Unit Award, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and the Army Overseas Service Ribbon.

Drill Sergeant Fowler has repeatedly demonstrated outstanding performance, leadership, and devotion to the U.S. Army as is evidenced by the fact that she was recently selected as the 2004 RC TRADOC Drill Sergeant of the Year.

Drill Sergeant Fowler continues to distinguish herself as an invaluable leader in the Army, and it is an honor for each Member of the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues to recognize the courage and commitment of Drill Sergeant Fowler and all women in the military.

CROSBY MILNE: WINNER OF LABOR'S "OUTSTANDING DEDICATION AWARD"

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 26, 2005

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, today I acknowledge a great friend of labor, Crosby Milne—

recognized with the "Outstanding Dedication Award" by the San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council, AFL-CIO.

Crosby Milne's early upbringing was unfortunately marred by frequent moves and arbitrary acts of discrimination. As a result, Crosby became fundamentally opposed to any forms of discrimination. He used those early childhood experiences as a barometer to make good choices throughout life and guide his actions. Crosby served five years in the United States Navy, and in those years, he played many roles. He spent 29 years working his way up to become a top manager. Throughout his work he discovered that following a set of values is the best way to manage. He has used this concept ever since. In 1974, he began work as a management consultant for commercial firms and for dozens of nonprofit organizations, including the United Farm Workers and Cesar Chavez.

For the past several years, Crosby has been a volunteer for the San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council, generously dedicating his time and ideas for the betterment of workers throughout San Diego and Imperial Counties. He has facilitated various staff retreats and meetings as well as sat on various committees. He provides wonderful insight and assessments. Crosby was also very instrumental in forming the Center on Policy Initiatives. Crosby's opinion is highly revered, as he speaks from life experience.

We congratulate Crosby for receiving this year's "Outstanding Dedication Award" from the San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council.

IN HONOR OF THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NEW YORK COUNTY LAWYERS ASSOCIATION'S HOME OF LAW

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 26, 2005

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the New York County Lawyers Association (NYCLA), and the 75th anniversary of its building, located at 14 Vesey Street in New York City. This location, in the heart of both my District and Lower Manhattan, has been the home of NYCLA and its many charitable and educational programs, all of which further its primary purpose of serving the public interest.

Tonight's celebration will feature many of New York City's most esteemed scholars. They include the Hon. Judith Kaye, Chief Judge of the State of New York, Hon. John M. Walker Jr., Chief Judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals, Second Circuit, Michael Cardozo, Corporation Counsel for the City of New York, and Paul Goldberger, architecture critic for The New Yorker.

The Home of Law was designed by legendary American architect Cass Gilbert, designer of the Woolworth and U.S. Supreme Court Buildings, and consulting architect for the George Washington Bridge. The groundbreaking for the Home of Law took place in 1929 and construction was completed just five and a half months later, on May 26, 1930, exactly 75 years ago today. The ribbon-cutting ceremony was attended by such notable figures as then Court of Appeals Chief